



# CMVP Panel Discussion

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# Topic for Discussion

- **The market for FIPS 140 validated products**
- **Customer perceptions**
- **Customer requirements**
  - From a real-life product procurement perspective, not summarizing different IA policies**
- **Observations and recommendations**

# Cisco FIPS 140 Certification Summary

- **Cisco has received a total of 23 FIPS 140-1 and FIPS 140-2 Certificates**

**Access routers**

**VPN Concentrators**

**Hardware/software clients**

**Mobile Access Routers**

**VPN Service Modules on switches and routers**

- **Many more efforts planned!**
- **Merging FIPS 140 validation process into product development cycle / engineering methodology**

# Market for Validated Products

- The **US Federal market** has the most strict requirements for validated products
  - Minimal requirements coming from State and Local areas
- Minimal to no interest or requirements in Canada, EMEA, and AsiaPac
- No commercial interest
  - Primary assurance vehicle is ICOSA

# Observations – Customer Perceptions

- **FIPS 140 is widely misunderstood** by procurement officials and IA enforcement officers
- **Many customers ask for “NIST certification” or mandate “FIPS” for procurement**
- **Difficulty understanding concepts and terms**
  - “Why isn’t your 2621XM certified to level 4?”
  - “What Protection Profile did you use?”

# Observations – Customer Requirements

- Requirements are **generally inconsistent** in the United States
- Validation “checkmark” good enough for some customers, others scrutinize Security Policies
- Requirements not enforced across entire Federal area

# Recommendations – Implementation Guidance

- **Continue offering transition times – these are necessary for planning purposes**
- **Set up a mailing list to notify vendor contacts of new guidance postings**
- **This mailing list can also be used as a vehicle to solicit feedback from the vendors on draft guidance**  
**“Guidance Under Review” ??**

# Recommendations - FIPS 140-3

- **CMVP should create FIPS 140-3 development working group / consortium**
- **CMVP needs to be the executive sponsor and facilitator**
- **Limit consortium membership to vendors and labs**
  - **Include one representative from the most active vendors in different technology areas**
  - **Include one representative from each laboratory**
- **Charge an annual consortium fee, which would provide cost recovery for NIST/CMVP**
- **Vendors can discuss impacts of suggested changes/improvements and provide perspective on developments in IETF and other technology development forums**
- **This model has proved to be very successful in the development of ICOSA testing criteria**

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